



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/752,005	01/07/2004	Soo-Young Oh	0465-1784PUS1	3627
2292	7590	10/11/2007	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH			STINSON, FRANKIE L	
PO BOX 747			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			1792	
		NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
		10/11/2007	ELECTRONIC	

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/752,005	OH ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	FRANKIE L. STINSON	1746	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,2,4-8,10-13,15-18 and 20-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 7,8,10-13,15-18 and 20-23 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,2,4-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Art Unit: 1746

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hockh et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 5,180,438) in view of either Fraraccio (U. S. Pat. 2,574,098) or Koblenzer (U. S. Pat. No. 4,471,792) .

Re claim 1, note that Hockh discloses the a drum type washing machine comprising: a drum (16) rotatably a driving motor (12) for rotating the drum; a vapor generator(80) installed at one side of the cabinet for generating vapor; a diverging pipe (84) installed at an upper side of the drum for supplying vapor generated from the vapor generator to inside of the drum; a first connection hose for connecting the vapor generator and the diverging pipe; a drain pipe (14) installed at a lower side of the drum for draining wash water inside of the drum; a second connection hose(86) for connecting the drain pipe and the diverging pipe; and a circulation pump (84) installed between the second connection hose and the drain pipe for circulating wash water drained from the drum that differs from the claim only in the recitation of the cabinet . that differs from the claim only in the recitation of the cabinet. The patents to Fraraccio and Koblenzer are each cited disclosing the cabinet as claimed. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the arrangement of Hockh, to include a casing as taught by either Fraraccio or Koblenzer, for the purpose of providing a more

aesthetic arrangement and for the purpose of covering the components of the apparatus to protect workers. Re claim 2, Hockh discloses the nozzle (48).

3. Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hockh et al. in view of Pickering (U. S. Pat. No. 3,025,381).

4. Claims 4 and 5 defines over the applied prior art only in the recitation of the upper part and the lower part being connected together Pickering discloses the upper (26) and the lower part (21) being connected together as claimed. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to employ generator in Hockh, as taught by Pickering since this is consider to be a mere substitution of equivalents. . Re claim 6, Pickering discloses the heating pipe. All of the claimed elements were known in the prior art and one skilled in the art could have combined the elements as claimed by known methods with no change in their respective functions, and the combination would have yielded predictable results to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention.

5. Claims 7, 8, 10-13 15-18 and 20-23 stand allowed.

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to the pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FRANKIE L. STINSON whose telephone number is (571) 272-1308. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm and some Saturdays from approximately 5:30 am to 11:30 am.

Art Unit: 1746

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr, can be reached on (571) 272-1700. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

FIs



FRANKIE L. STINSON  
Primary Examiner  
GROUP ART UNIT 1746